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Our reference: PZ

Date 14 January 2025

CUMBRIA POLICE, FIRE & CRIME COMMISSIONER'S PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY CONFERENCE

The Police and Crime Commissioner's Public Accountability Conference will take place on **Monday 20th January 2025, at 10:00.**

The purpose of the Conference is to enable the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner to hold the Chief Constable to account for operational performance.

If you would like to join the meeting as a member of the public or press, please contact Paula Zutic on paula.zutic@cumbria.police.uk Following the meeting papers will be uploaded on to the Commissioner's website.

G Shearer
Chief Executive

Attendees:

Police, Fire & Crime Commissioner	- Mr David Allen (Chair)
OPFCC Chief Executive	- Ms Gill Shearer
Chief Finance Officer	- Mr Steven Tickner
Chief Constable	- Mr Rob Carden

AGENDA

PART 1 – ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED IN THE PRESENCE OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

2. URGENT BUSINESS AND EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

To consider (i) any urgent items of business and (ii) whether the press and public should be excluded from the Meeting during consideration of any Agenda item where there is likely disclosure of information exempt under s.100A(4) and Part I Schedule A of the Local Government Act 1972 and the public interest in not disclosing outweighs any public interest in disclosure.

3. QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

An opportunity (not exceeding 20 minutes) to deal with any questions which have been provided in writing within at least three clear working days before the meeting date to the Chief Executive.

4. DISCLOSURE OF PERSONAL INTERESTS

Attendees are invited to disclose any personal/prejudicial interest, which they may have in any of the items on the Agenda. If the personal interest is a prejudicial interest, then the individual should not participate in a discussion of the matter and must withdraw from the room unless a dispensation has previously been obtained.

5. MINUTES OF MEETING

To receive and approve the minutes of the Public Accountability Conference held on the 25th October 2024.

6. POLICING PERFORMANCE WITH A THEMATIC ON DOMESTIC ABUSE

To receive an update from the Constabulary in relation to performance for the most recent 12 months rolling total data, as agreed in the Police and Crime Plan Accountability Framework.

7. DRUGS and SERIOUS ORGANISED CRIME

To receive an update from the Constabulary in relation to Drugs and Serious Organised Crime.

8. FIREARMS LICENCING

To receive an update from the Constabulary in relation to Firearms Licencing.



**CUMBRIA POLICE, FIRE & CRIME COMMISSIONER
PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY CONFERENCE**

Minutes of the Public Accountability Conference held on
Friday 25th October 2024
at 10:00 in Conference Room 1, Carleton Hall, Penrith

PRESENT

Police, Fire & Crime Commissioner – David Allen (Chair)

Also present:

Chief Constable (Rob Carden);
Deputy Chief Constable (Darren Martland);
Assistant Chief Constable (Jonathan Blackwell);
Assistant Chief Constable (Dave Stalker);
Director of Performance and Change (Louise Kane);
Sergeant (Richard Barry);
Constabulary Communications Officer (Nick Griffiths);
OPFCC Chief Executive (Gill Shearer);
OPFCC Chief Finance Officer (Steven Tickner);
OPFCC Executive Support Officer (Paula Zutic) – taking minutes;

PART 1 – ITEMS CONSIDERED IN THE PRESENCE OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

001. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

002. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

No questions had been received in advance of the meeting from any members of the public.

003. URGENT BUSINESS AND EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

There were no items of urgent business to be considered by the Committee.

004. DISCLOSURE OF PERSONAL INTERESTS

There were no disclosures of any personal interest relating to any item on the Agenda.



005. MINUTES

The Chair presented the minutes of the Public Accountability Conference held on the 16th July 2024 which had previously been circulated with the agenda. The minutes were agreed as an accurate record and signed by the Chair.

The Commissioner asked about the progress of the recruitment process to the Special Constabulary. DCC Martland will provide the Commissioner with an update in due course.

RESOLVED, that, the

- (i) Minutes of the Public Accountability Conference held on the 16th July 2024 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair; and
- (ii) DCC Martland to provide the Commissioner with an update on the recruitment process to the Special Constabulary;

006. POLICING PERFORMANCE and OUTCOMES FOR VICTIMS

The presentation was given by the Director of Performance and Change.

999 call performance remains strong and has improved significantly since 2023. On average, 95% of 999 calls are answered within 10 seconds. The national KPI is 90% so Cumbria is sitting well above that. Nationally, Cumbria has been the top performing Force in the country & our position fluctuates between 1 – 6.

101 call performance is consistently high, and sitting not less than 95% of calls answered within 5 minutes. There is a consistent low abandonment rate of under 5%.

It is worth noting that figures can be affected by one off anomalies such as a random caller making a lot of calls over a 4 – 5 hour period.

It has taken a combination of factors to get to this point including BCU Structure; Demand Analysis; Evaluation; Right people / Right place; 5% stretch target set by Chief Constable. All of these elements feed into the attrition rates. It has been a long journey over a period of time but shows a good grip with good processes and a consistently low abandonment rate.

The Commissioner had received good feedback from the recent engagement day, and is very reassured. The engagement day may be repeated in 2025.



Grade 1 response times are currently at 96% compared to 89.5% last year.
Grade 2 response times are currently at 93.6% compared to 93.1% last year.
This has been maintained throughout the summer.

Cyber Crime has seen a 21% increase on the year before (1,284 crimes captured / recorded with a cyber flag). The crime already exists.

Knife crime is a very specific category but has seen a reduction overall.
Firearm down 14%.

Cumbria has very small numbers of crimes so any fluctuation has an effect on the percentage.

An increase has been seen in drugs offences and is as a result of pro-active work carried out by the Constabulary.

ASB is split into area and type of ASB. All areas except Barrow has seen a reduction in this area. The Commissioner is aware of the time and effort that has gone in to ASB as well as the work in the background to target hotspot areas. Visibility is a major factor, and clearly targeting hotspot areas is having a significant impact.

Going forward we would like to bolster what we have and try to obtain additional funding for this area.

The work is pre-planned to manage resource and demand, and shows the benefit of evidence based policing.

Op Enhance results so far are:

- 21% ASB reduction across the Force
- 37 ASB reduction in specific hotspots
- 15% reduction when the hotspot is excluded

The figures clearly show the benefits of targeting specific areas.

ACTION:

- Comms & Media team to do media around the ASB reductions. £1m funding with overlaid data and targeted areas have given an almost 40% reduction in ASB in hotspot areas.

Cumbria has the highest positive outcome rates nationally for VAWG. At the end of the FYD the figure was 19.9% compared to a current figure of 20.1%.

Other Forces are looking to Cumbria to see how the performance is being achieved.



Arson & Criminal Damage positive outcome rate has increased from 12.8% to 13.9% this FYD.

Burglary positive outcome rate has increased from 10.5% to 16.3%.
Op Themis is targeting repeat offenders & pro-active work around prevention is taking place. There has been an 11.4% reduction in Burglary.

There has been re-classification around the most serious offences and a Det. Sup. In Op Themis is looking at investigations end to end.

ACTION:

- Comms & Media to highlight the decrease in Burglary (11.4%)

Drugs has seen an increase of 29.4% in drug possession – this is a direct correlation with Stop & Search and is a good news story.

80% positive outcome rate last year compared to 75% currently – this is a slight reduction but is an improving picture overall.

Possession of Offensive Weapons – Positive outcome rate of 42% down from 44% last year. This figure fluctuates depending upon the type of offences.

There has been a recent change in the law in relation to Zombie knives, but there are not being found. The figures related to bladed articles or sharp objects.

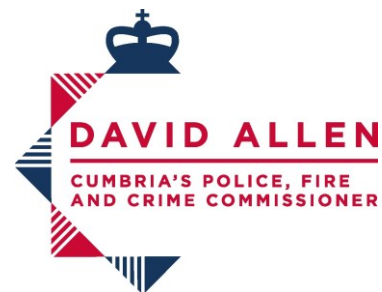
Public Order Offences has seen an increase in positive outcome rates from 18.1% to 19.2%.

Robbery has low volume offences and has a positive outcome rate of 25.8%. Very small numbers in this category.

Rape has seen a decrease of 8.7% in the number of offences compared to last year.

The Online Safety Act means that every Force will have the same increase, so this category will increase nationally. The Chief Constable has commissioned an end to end deep dive into how we deal with rape in Cumbria – the results will come back to this group.

Theft has seen an increase of 19.3% (cost of living items such as food / nappies etc). Cumbria has seen the third lowest increase across the country and has a slower increase than the national rate.



Vehicle Offences – positive outcome rates are 12.1% which is an increase of 0.2pp on last year. There has been a slight seasonality increase over summer, but it is an improving picture.

Op. Lanterns and the ARIS funding into additional ANPR cameras is having an impact. ACC Blackwell was asked for detail around this and will feed back.

ACTION:

- ACC Blackwell to feed back the detailed impact of the additional ARIS funded ANPR cameras.

Violence Against the Person (includes VAWG) sees Cumbria with the fourth highest positive outcome rate nationally, so we are in a good position.

VAWG is a very broad category and has a Home Office definition of categories. It includes Domestic Abuse and Honour based crimes.

Discussions are taking place with CPS to re-introduce dedicated lawyers & re-instate early advice regarding charging decisions.

Rape cases in Cumbria is not where we would want it to be and work is on-going to understand this. It was noted that Cumbria does not have the backlog of cases that other areas have.

The Commissioner praised the consistent hard work in delivering and maintaining the continual improvement in performance. We need to keep the pressure on and are seeing the benefits – it is the right thing to do for the people of Cumbria. The Commissioner is very re-assured by what he has heard today and has no further questions.

Following a discussion, the report was noted.

RESOLVED, that

- (i) The report be noted; and
- (ii) Comms & Media team to do a piece around the ASB reductions; and
- (iii) Comms & Media to highlight the reduction in
- (iv) Burglary (11.4%); and
- (v) ACC Blackwell to feed back the detailed impact of the additional ARIS funded ANPR cameras;



Meeting concluded

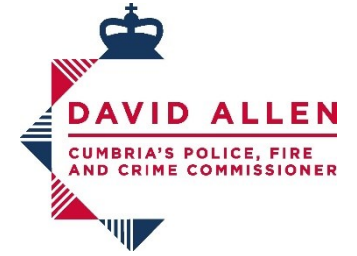
Signed: _____ **Date:** _____

Police Public Accountability Conference

OPEN ACTION LOG



Date of meeting	Action Number	Minute Number / Topic	Action to be taken	Lead Person/s	Report back to Board	Update	Review Date	Date Action Closed
25/10/2024	006	Policing Performance and Outcomes for Victims	Comms & Media team to do media around the ASB reductions. £1m funding with overlaid data and targeted areas have given an almost 40% reduction in ASB in hotspot areas.	DCC Martland	Yes	These feature heavily in the Constabulary's monthly updates to the media regarding Op Enhance, these are sent out the beginning of each month and give an operational summary of the previous month. The Constabulary also does regular updates during the month which can include details of the reduction in ASB across the force and local level. There was also an ASB awareness week of action in November, this showed operational activity and also detailed the reduction in ASB.	21/01/2025	CLOSED
25/10/2024	006	Policing Performance and Outcomes for Victims	Comms & Media to highlight the decrease in Burglary (11.4%)	DCC Martland	Yes	The Constabulary has been very proactive in crime prevention and advice for home burglary and regularly push this out through messaging. It has pushed out the reductions a few times, showing higher increase as we progress through the year, and take the opportunity to do this as a reassurance message when highlighting activity.	21/01/2025	CLOSED
25/10/2024	006	Policing Performance and Outcomes for Victims	ACC Blackwell to feed back the detailed impact of the additional ARIS funded ANPR cameras.	ACC Blackwell	Yes	Update to be provided at the meeting.	21/01/2025	OPEN



Public Accountability Conference

Monday 20th January

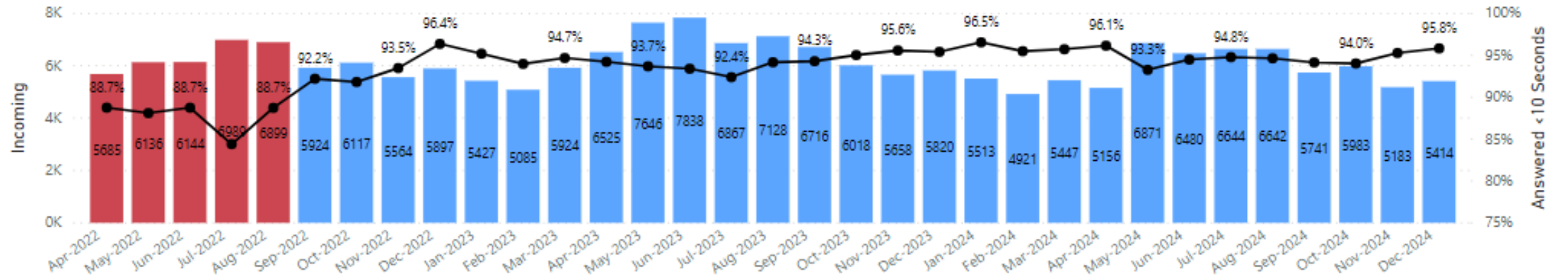


999 Call Performance



999 Calls - % answered in 10 seconds

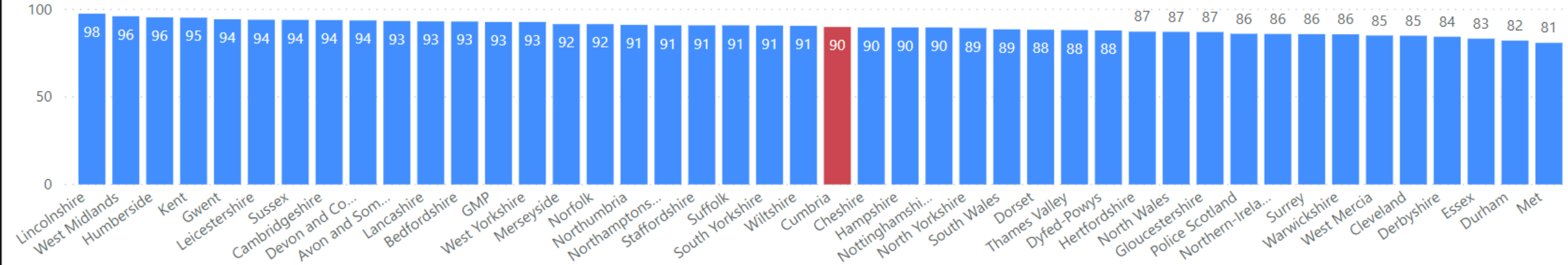
● Incoming ● Answered <10 Seconds



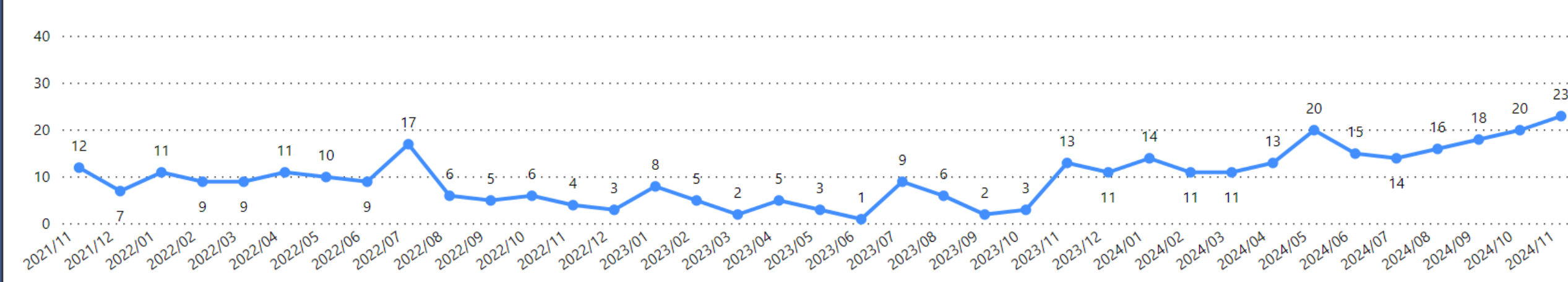
999 Call Performance



% Calls answered in under 10 seconds



Cumbria ranking over time (44 forces, high to low)

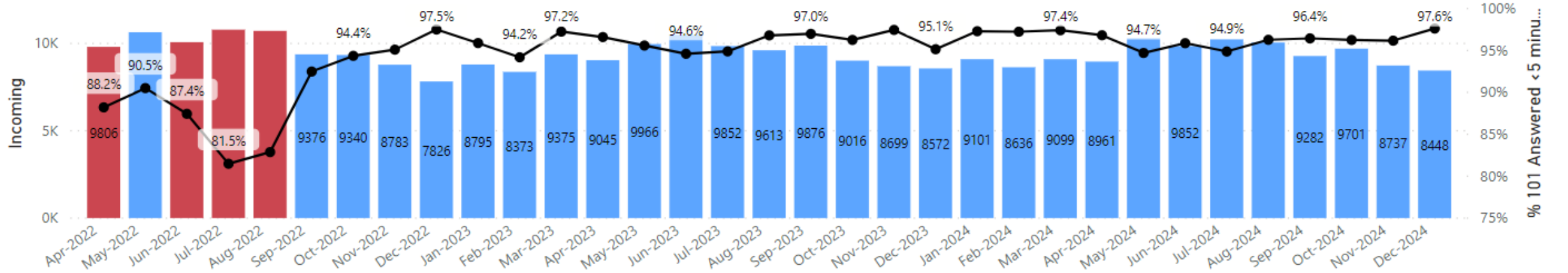


101 Call Performance



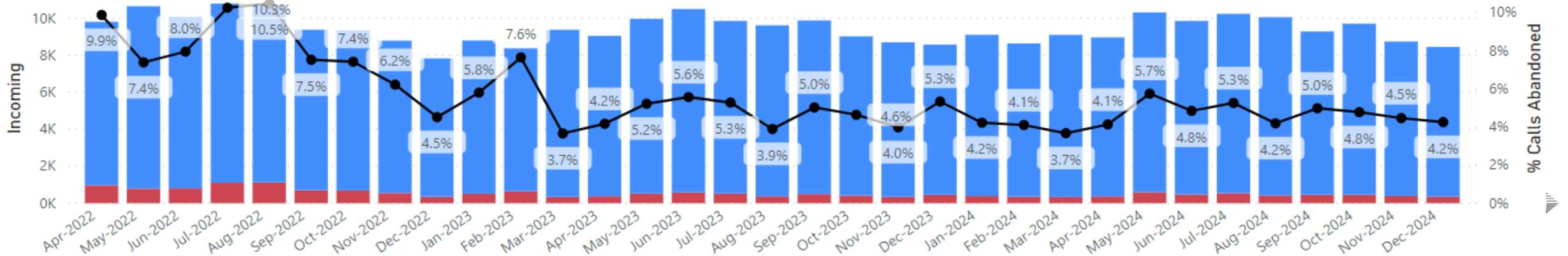
101 Calls - % answered in 5 minutes

● Incoming ● % 101 Answered <5 minutes



101 Calls - % abandoned

CallResult ● Abandoned ● Answered ● % Calls Abandoned



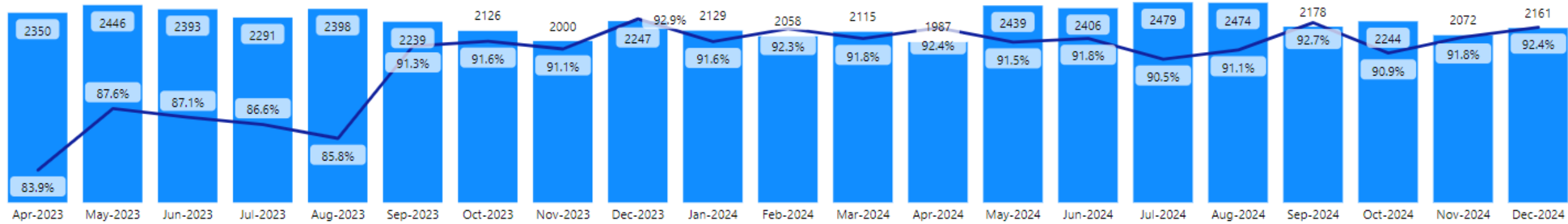
Incident Response Grade 1 and 2



Grade 1

% of logs attended in target (with adjustment for regrading)

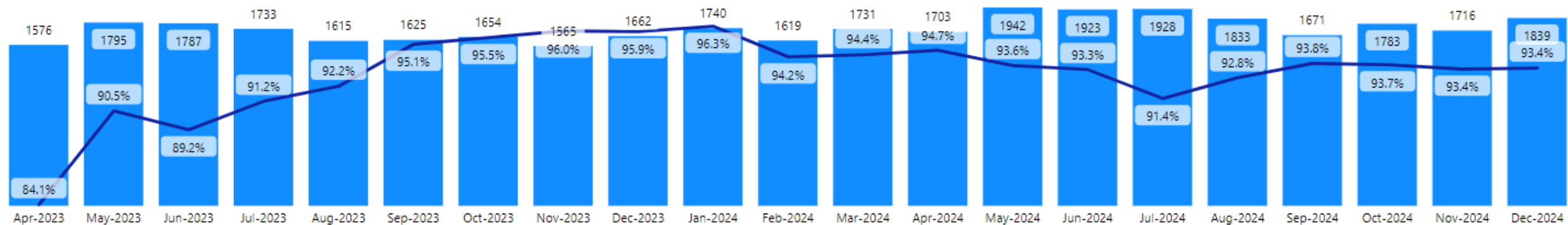
● Incidents with Response Target ● % Attended In Target (inc. regrade adjustment)



Grade 2

% of logs attended in target (with adjustment for regrading)

● Incidents with Response Target ● % Attended In Target (inc. regrade adjustment)



Main crime type breakdowns



	All Crime	Residential Burglary	Robbery	Domestic Abuse	Vehicle Offences	Hate Crime Flag	Rape	Shoplifting	Victim Based Crime (VBC)	VAWG Offences
SPLY Volume	27063	476	140	4573	726	509	387	1663	20631	5941
FYTD2425 Volume	28438	385	107	4834	655	652	378	1835	21789	6336
Change in volume	1375	-91	-33	261	-71	143	-9	172	1158	395
Change in volume (%)	5.08%	-19.12%	-23.57%	5.71%	-9.78%	28.09%	-2.33%	10.34%	5.61%	6.65%
SPLY Positive Outcome Rate	19.09%	7.14%	21.43%	13.12%	12.12%	21.41%	10.08%	33.85%	15.13%	14.17%
FYTD2425 Positive Outcome Rate	20.24%	16.36%	25.23%	14.54%	12.37%	24.39%	10.85%	38.91%	16.13%	13.21%
Change in rate (Percentage Points)	1.16pp	9.22pp	3.81pp	1.42pp	0.25pp	2.97pp	0.77pp	5.06pp	1.00pp	-0.96pp

Table outlining the change in volume and positive outcome rates for the main crime types at Cumbria, period for the FYTD24/25 is 01/04/2024 - 31/12/2024, same period last year (SPLY) is 01/04/2023 - 31/12/2023.

Positives

- **Residential burglary** volume has decreased significantly following increased governance, volumes have dropped by 91 when compared against the SPLY, (-19.12%).
- **Residential burglary** positive outcome rate has increased significantly and exceeds both the lower and upper KPIs.
- **All Crime volumes** are slightly up, by around ~5%. However, the positive outcome rate has increased by 1.16pp despite this increase
- **Victim based Crime** shows a similar trend, with an increase in volume of 5.61%, despite this the positive outcome rate has increased by 1.00pp.
- **Robbery** outcome rate has improved by 3.81pp, and the volume has decreased by ~24%.
- **Domestic abuse** positive outcome rates have increased by 1.42pp, despite the increase in volume

Exceptions

- **VBC Volume** has increased by 5.61% against the SPLY
- **Shoplifting volume** has increased by 10.34% against the SPLY



Cyber Crime

23/24 = 1989

↑ 63.4%

FYTD = 2443

SPLY = 1491

Offences Involving Knives or Sharp Weapons

23/24 = 214

↓ -24.2%

FYTD (end of Q3 24/25) = 125

SPLY (end of Q3 23/24) = 165

Offences Involving Firearm Use

23/24 = 38

↓ -10.7%

FYTD (end of Q2 24/25) = 25

SPLY (end of Q2 23/24) = 28

Neighbourhood Crime

23/24 = 7804

↓ -6.3%

FYTD = 5782

SPLY = 6168

Homicide

23/24 = 4

↑ 100%

FYTD = 4

SPLY = 2

Violence with Injury

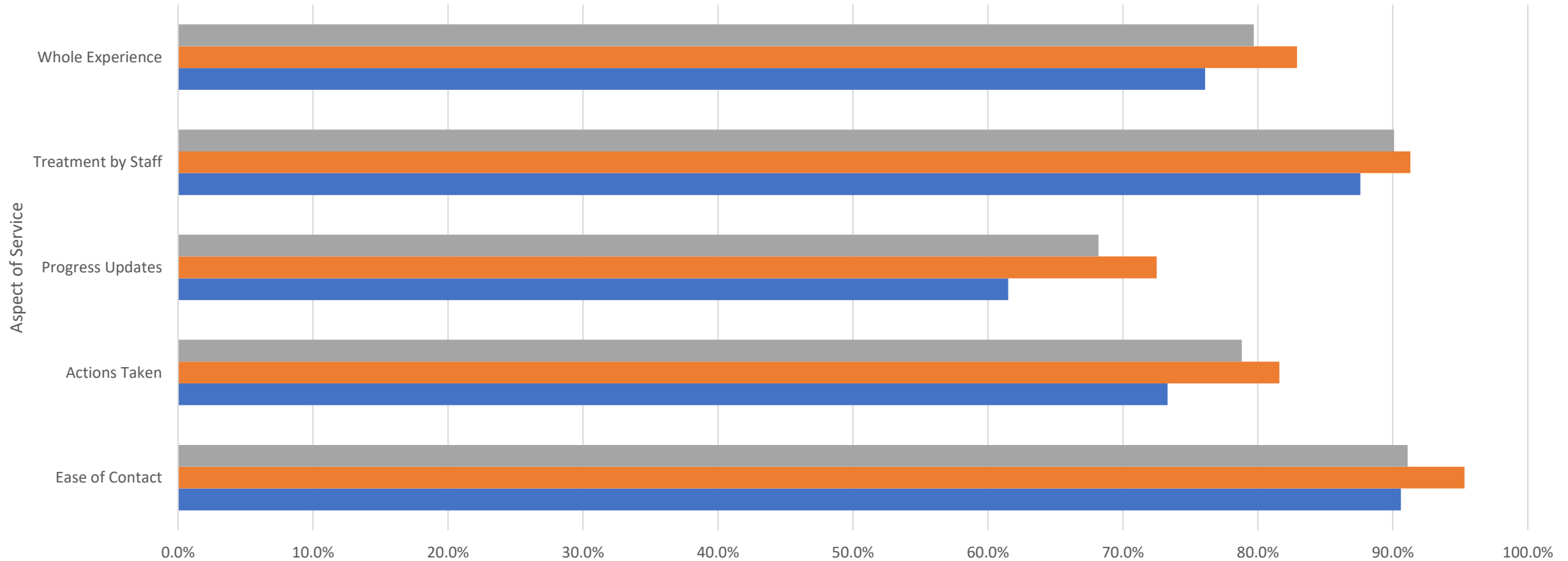
23/24 = 4604

↔ 0.2%

FYTD = 3731

SPLY = 3723

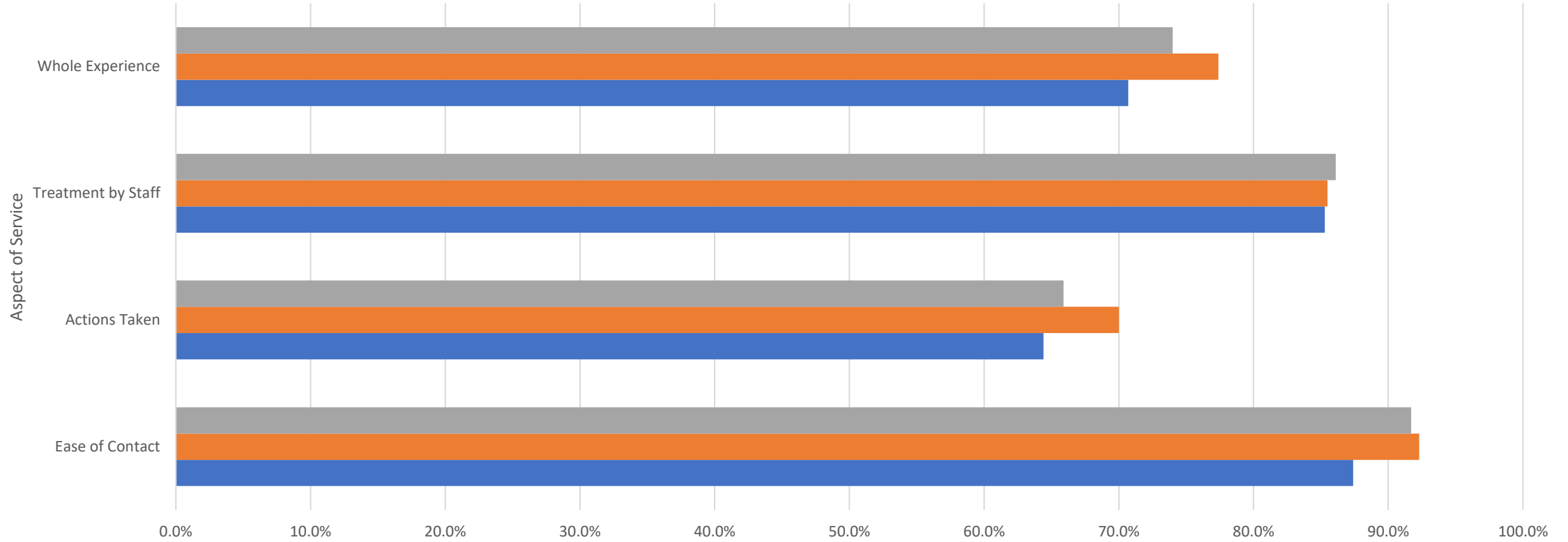
Crime Victim Satisfaction Overview



	Ease of Contact	Actions Taken	Progress Updates	Treatment by Staff	Whole Experience
■ 24/25	91.1%	78.8%	68.2%	90.1%	79.7%
■ 23/24	95.3%	81.6%	72.5%	91.3%	82.9%
■ 22/23	90.6%	73.3%	61.5%	87.6%	76.1%

Victim Satisfaction Level

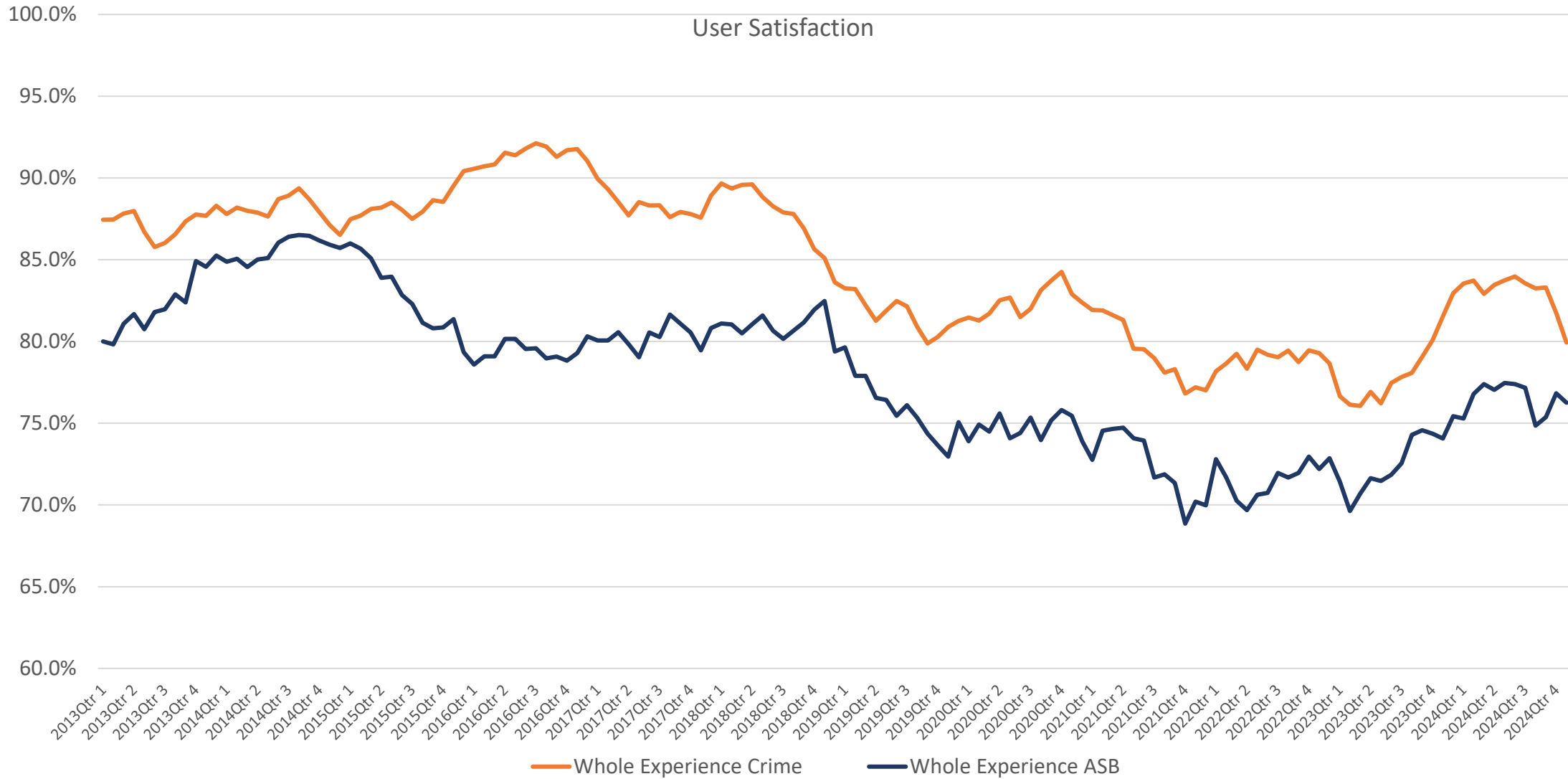
ASB Victim Satisfaction Overview



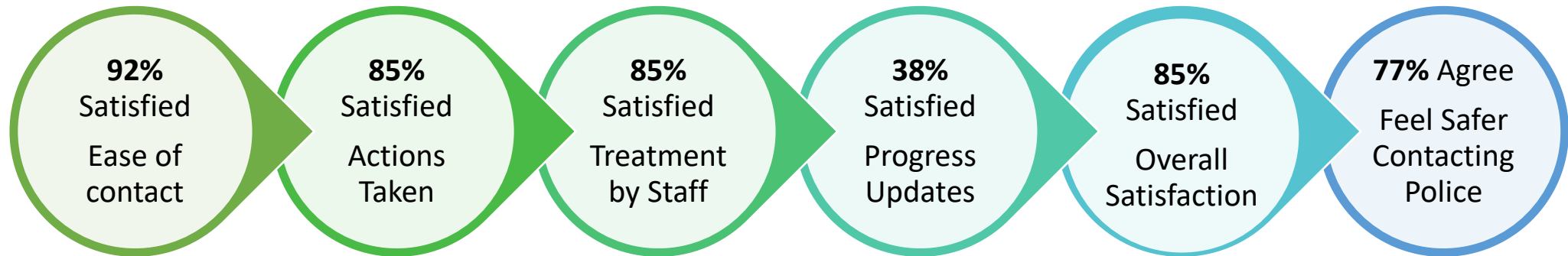
	Ease of Contact	Actions Taken	Treatment by Staff	Whole Experience
■ 24/25	91.7%	65.9%	86.1%	74.0%
■ 23/24	92.3%	70.0%	85.5%	77.4%
■ 22/23	87.4%	64.4%	85.3%	70.7%

Victim Satisfaction Level

Victim Satisfaction – Crime and ASB



01/01/2024 – 31/12/2024 – 13 DA surveys completed

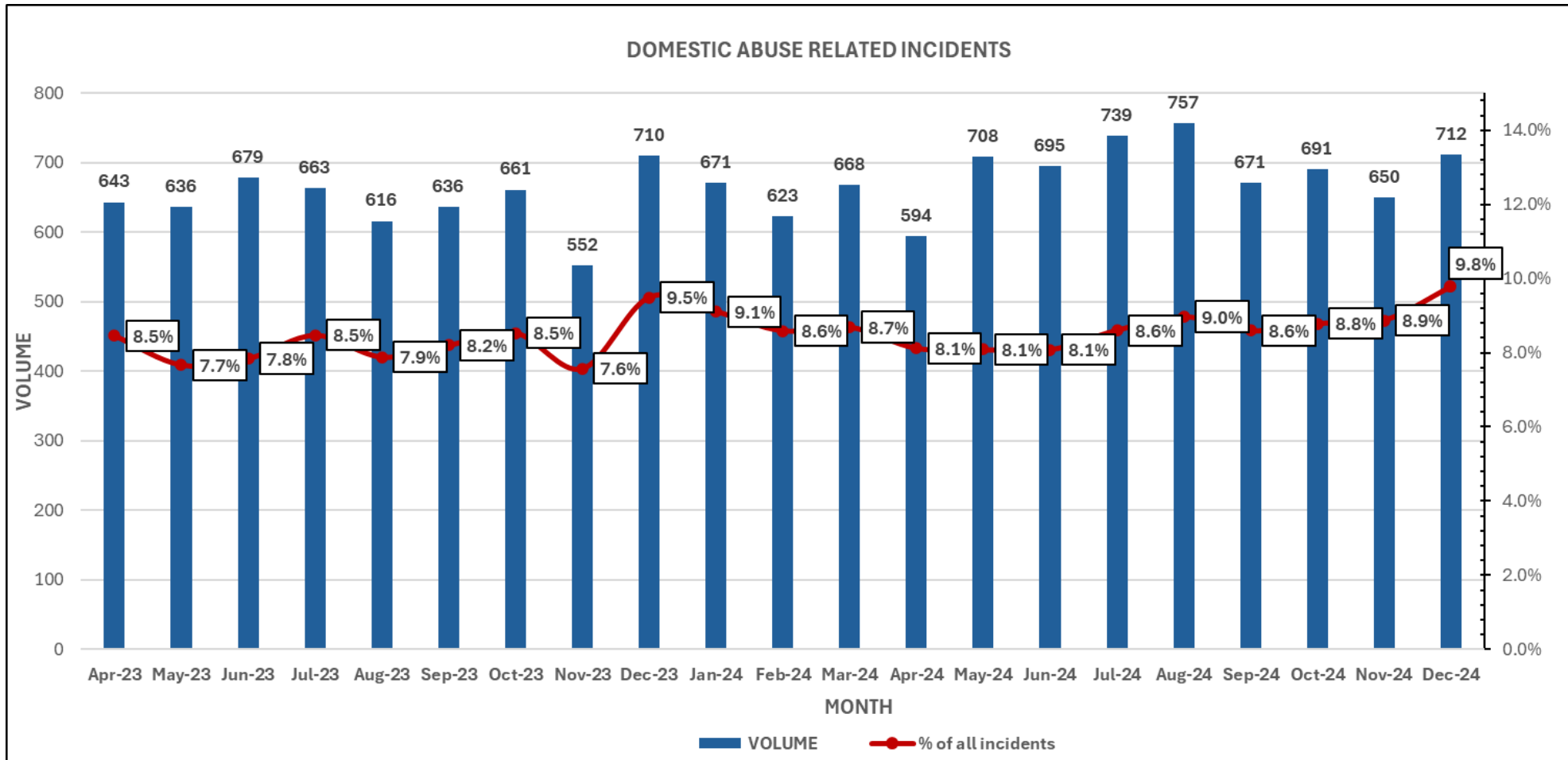




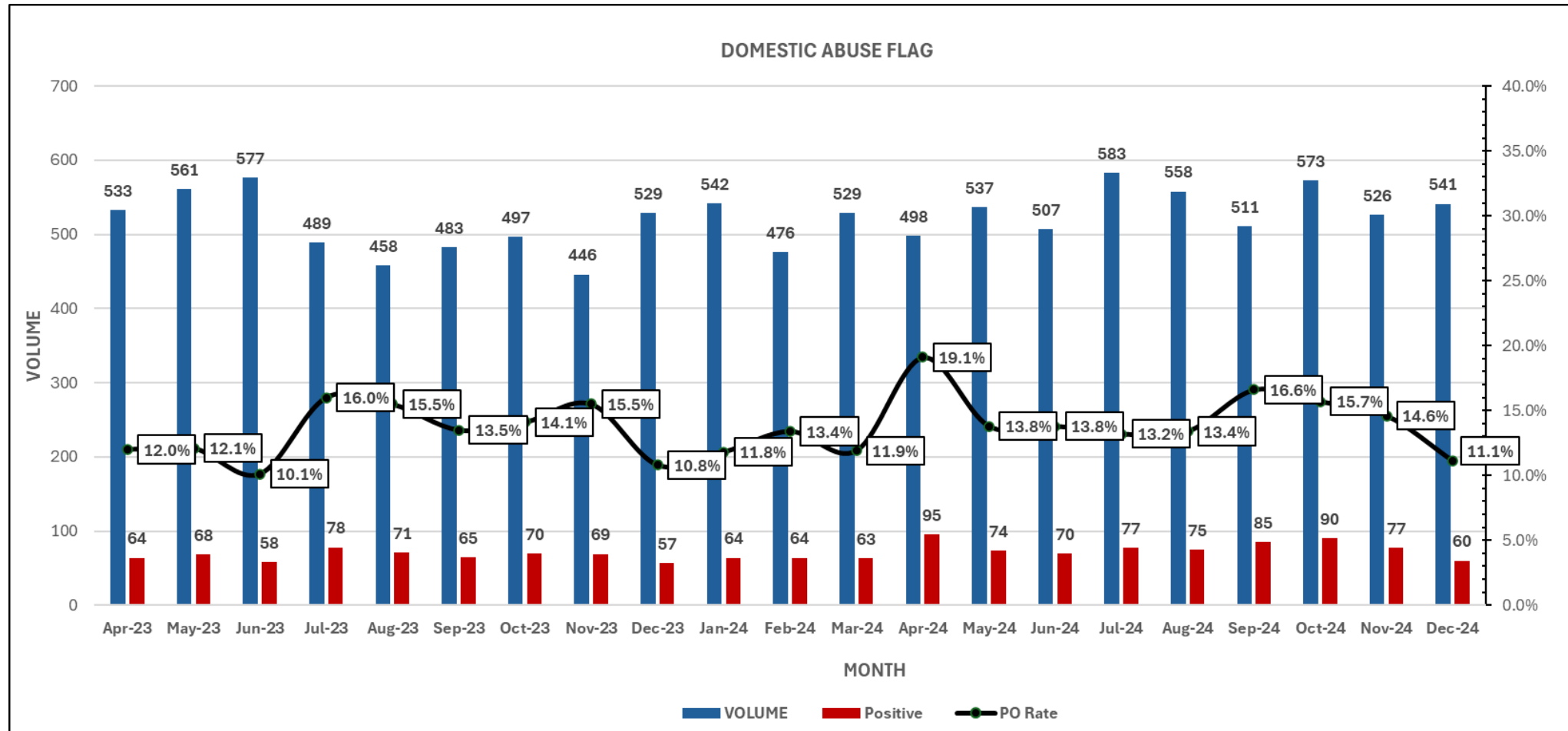
Domestic Abuse



Domestic Abuse Incidents



Domestic Abuse Crime Flag



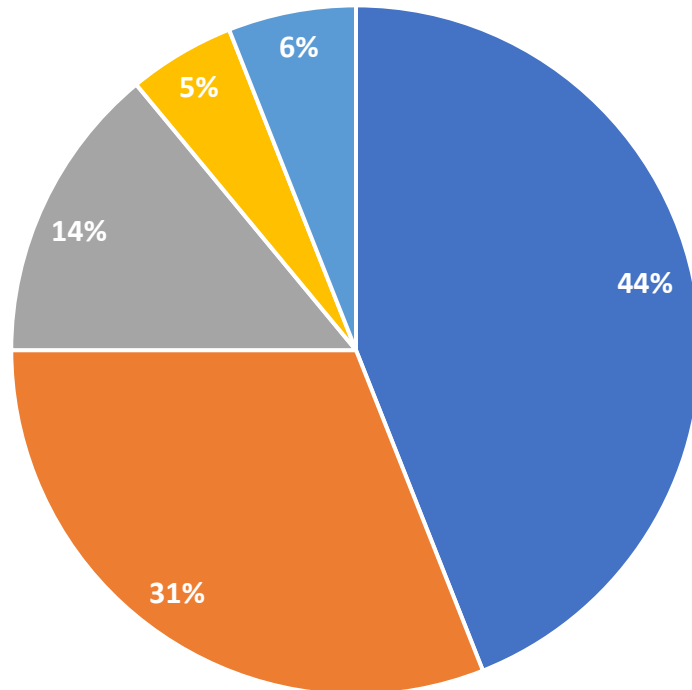
Repeat DA Victims

- **FYTD** - 20% of all repeat victims are DA related

Repeat DA Perpetrators

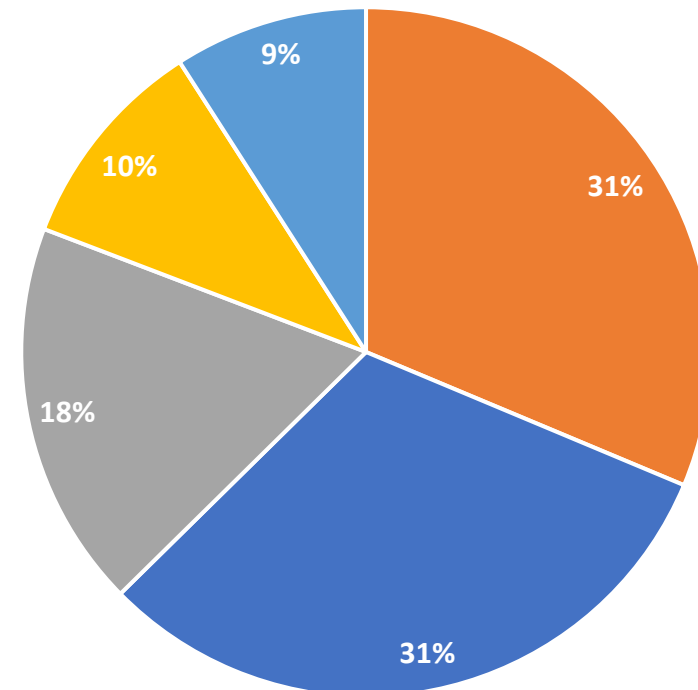
- **FYTD** - 20% of all repeat perpetrators are DA related

DA Relationships



■ Partner ■ Ex-Partner ■ Parent/Child ■ Family ■ Other/Unknown

DA Victim Ages



■ 17-30 ■ 31-40 ■ 41-50 ■ 51-60 ■ 61+

Domestic Abuse Crime Breakdown



Offence Group	FYTD Crime Volume	FYTD Positive Outcome Rate
Arson & Criminal Damage	260	18.5%
Burglary	41	24.4%
Drug Offences	2	100.0%
Miscellaneous Crimes Against Society	88	20.5%
Possession of Weapons Offences	48	27.1%
Public Order Offences	203	17.2%
Robbery	8	25.0%
Sexual Offences	270	8.1%
Theft Offences	144	9.0%
Vehicle Offences	42	38.1%
Stalking & Harassment	1,291	16.7%
Violence With Injury	1,064	15.9%
Violence Without Injury	1,372	10.1%

Overall Positive Outcome rate for DA FYTD is 14.6%

SPLY – 13.1%

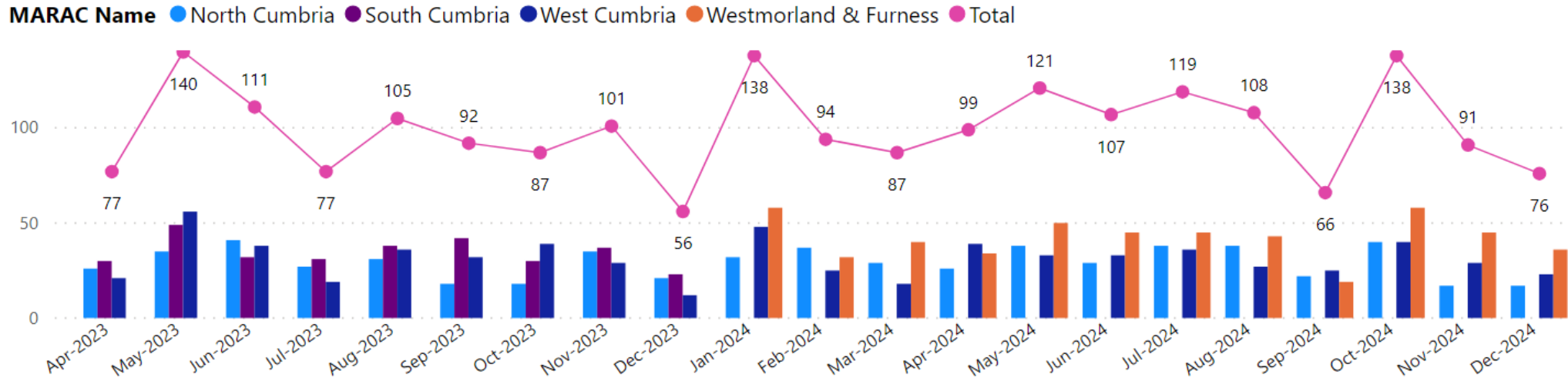


Domestic Abuse

MARAC

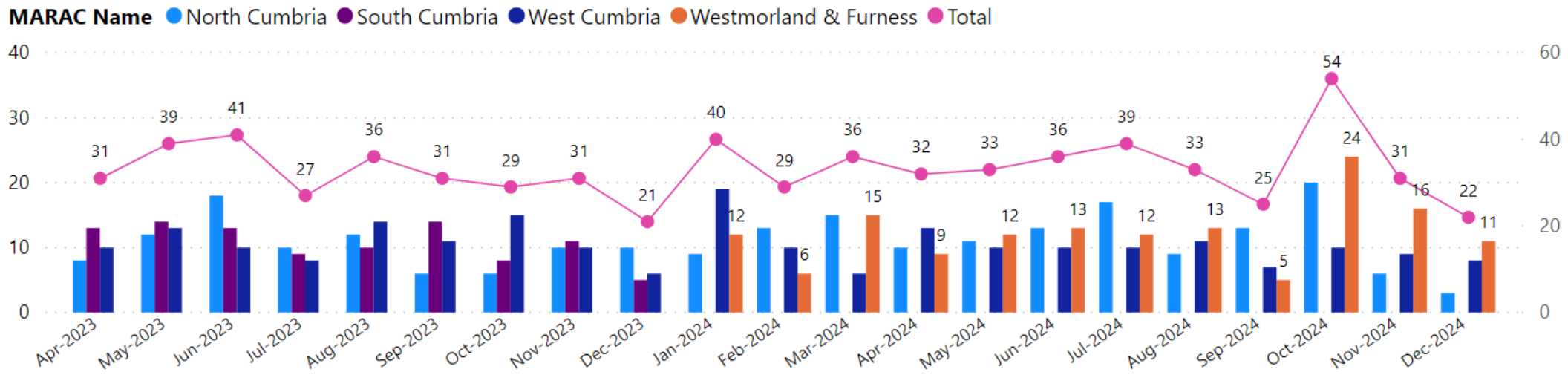


CASES DISCUSSED



FYTD - 925 cases discussed at MARAC - a 9.3% increase compared to SPLY.

REPEAT CASES

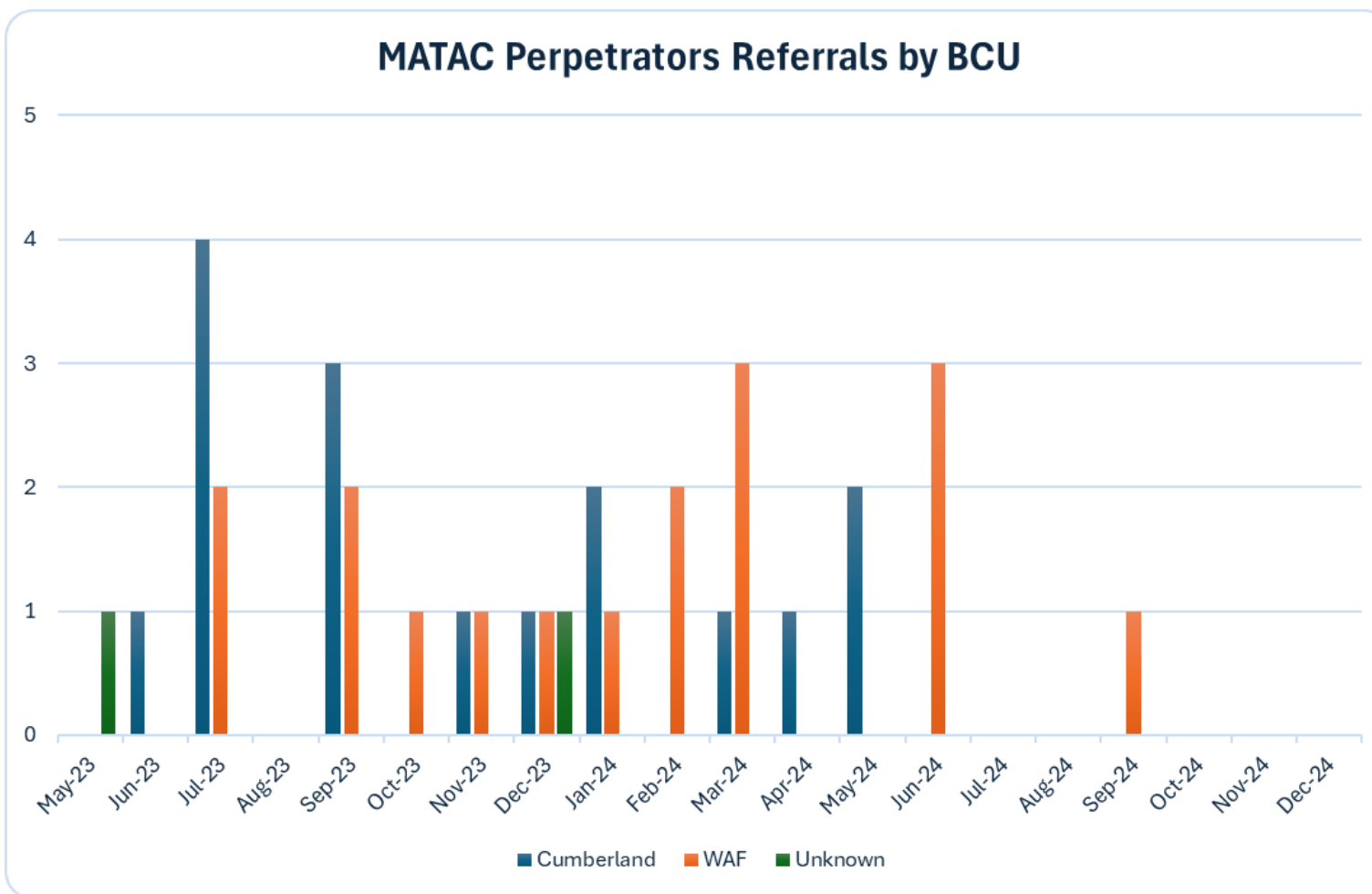


305 of the cases, (33%) were repeat, compared to 286, 33.8% in SPLY.





MATAC Perpetrators Referrals by BCU



- Since the programme started in May 2023 there were 35 perpetrators referred to the MATAC Programme
- 71% (n=25) have completed the programme.
- One person was repeatedly referred and is currently on the programme for the second time.
- 8 of the perpetrators currently on the programme are in WAF and 2 in Cumberland.

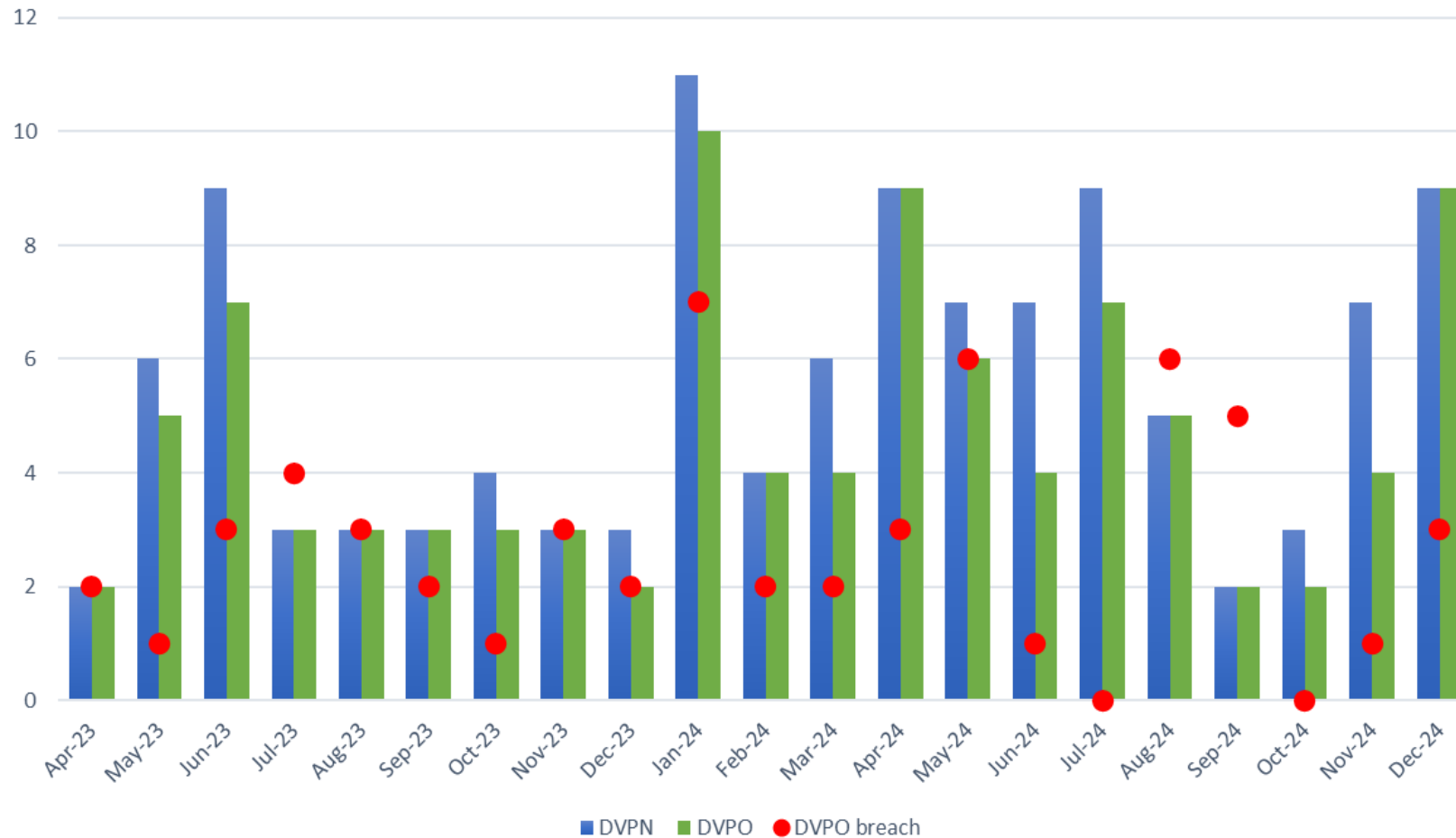


Domestic Abuse

Domestic Violence Protection Notice (DVPN) and Domestic Violence Protection Order (DVPO)



DVPN/DVPO and Breaches



FYTD

- 58 DVPNs – a 61.1% increase compared to SPLY.
- 48 DVPOs – a 54.8% increase compared to SPLY.

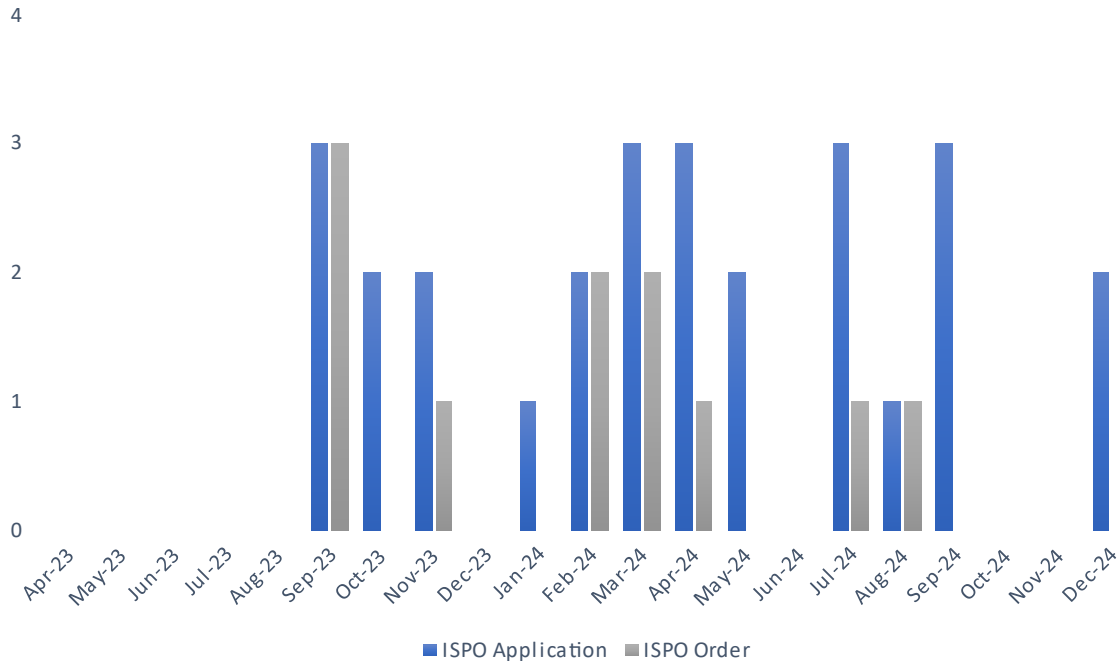


Domestic Abuse

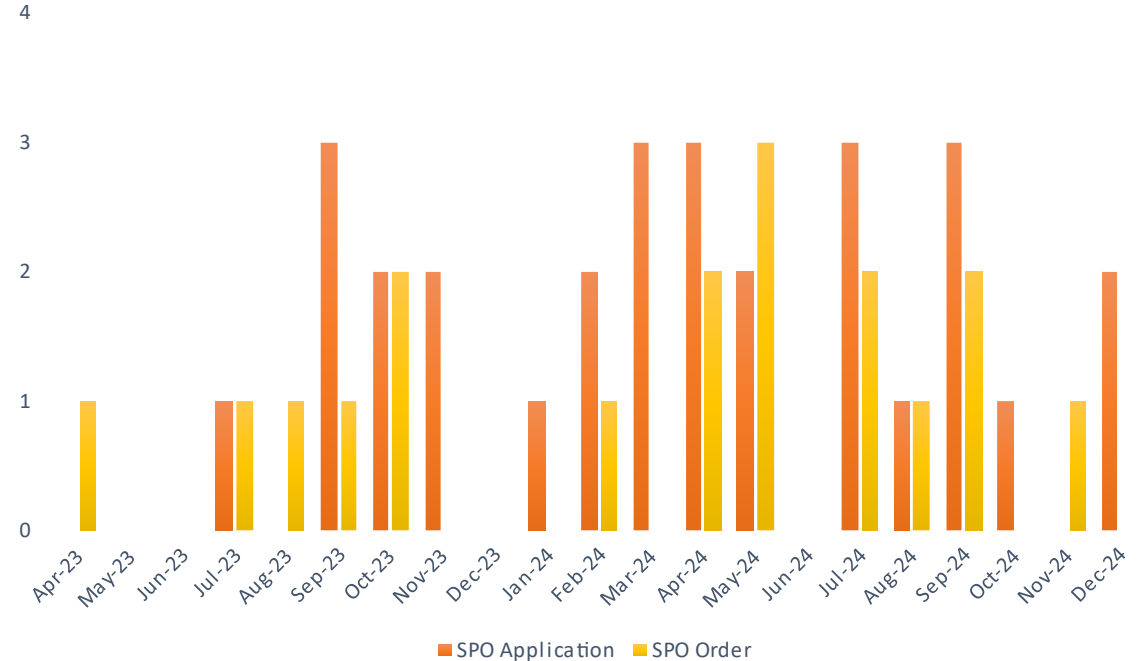


Interim Stalking Protection Order (ISPO) and Stalking Protection Order (SPO)

ISPO Applications and Orders



SPO Applications and Orders



FYTD

14 ISPOs applications - 100% increase compared to SPLY

3 ISPO orders – 25% decrease compared to SPLY

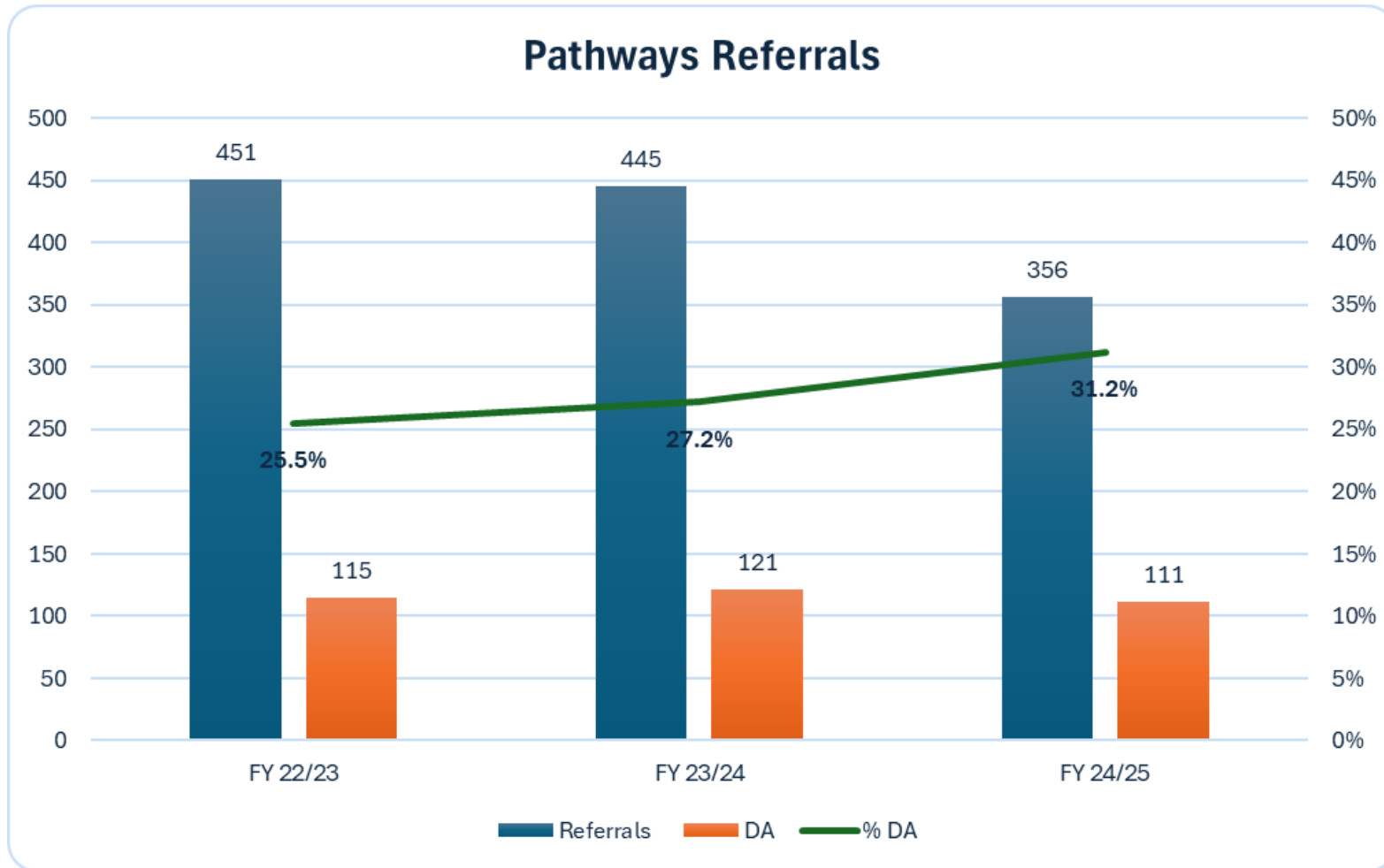
15 SPO applications – 87.5% increase compared to SPLY

11 SPO Orders - 83.3% increase compared to SPLY



Domestic Abuse

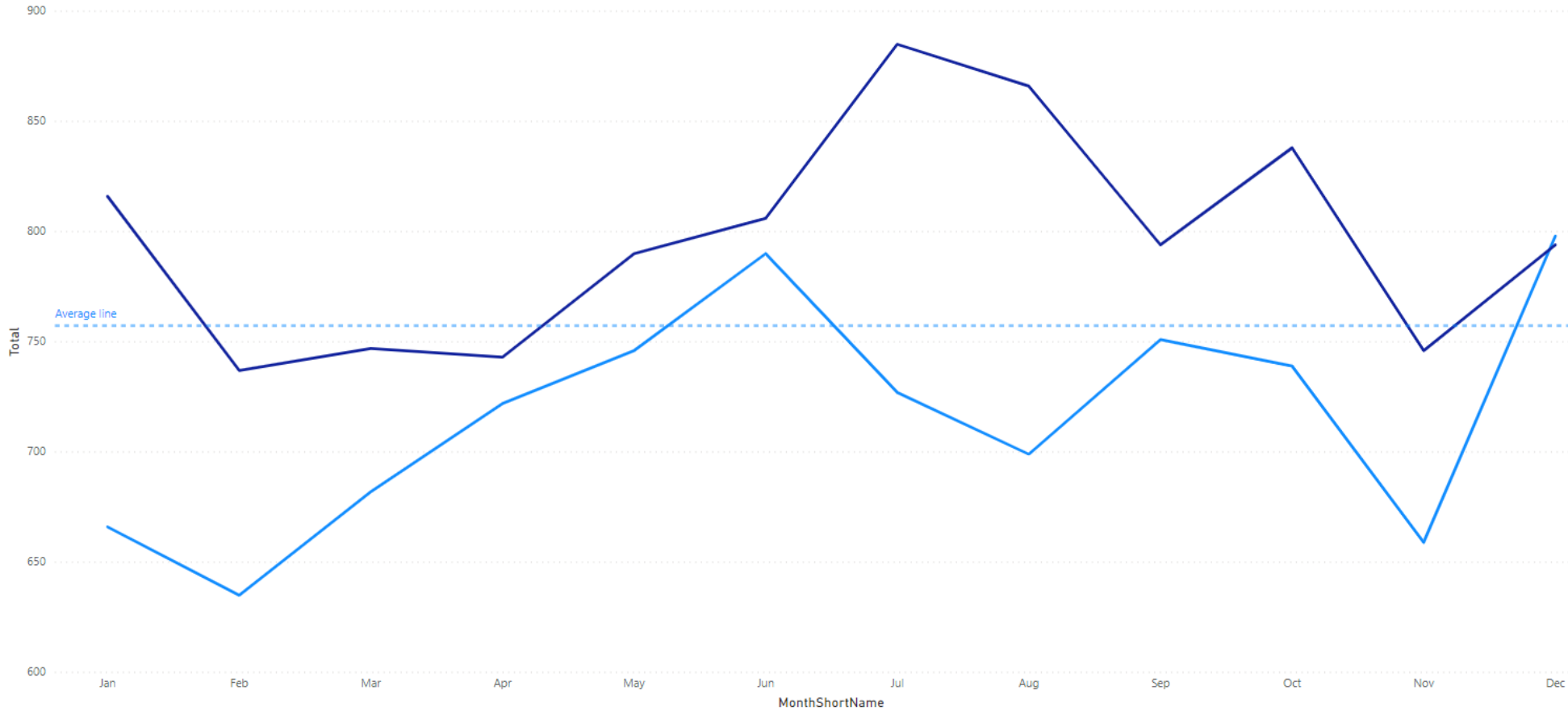
Use of Interventions



Domestic Abuse Safeguarding Records

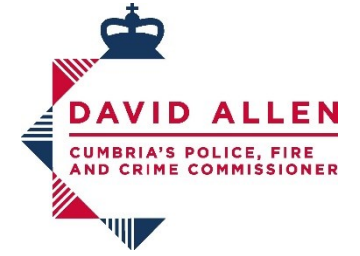


Year ● 2023 ● 2024



FYTD
7262 DA
safeguarding
records created – a
9.6% increase
compared to the
SPLY





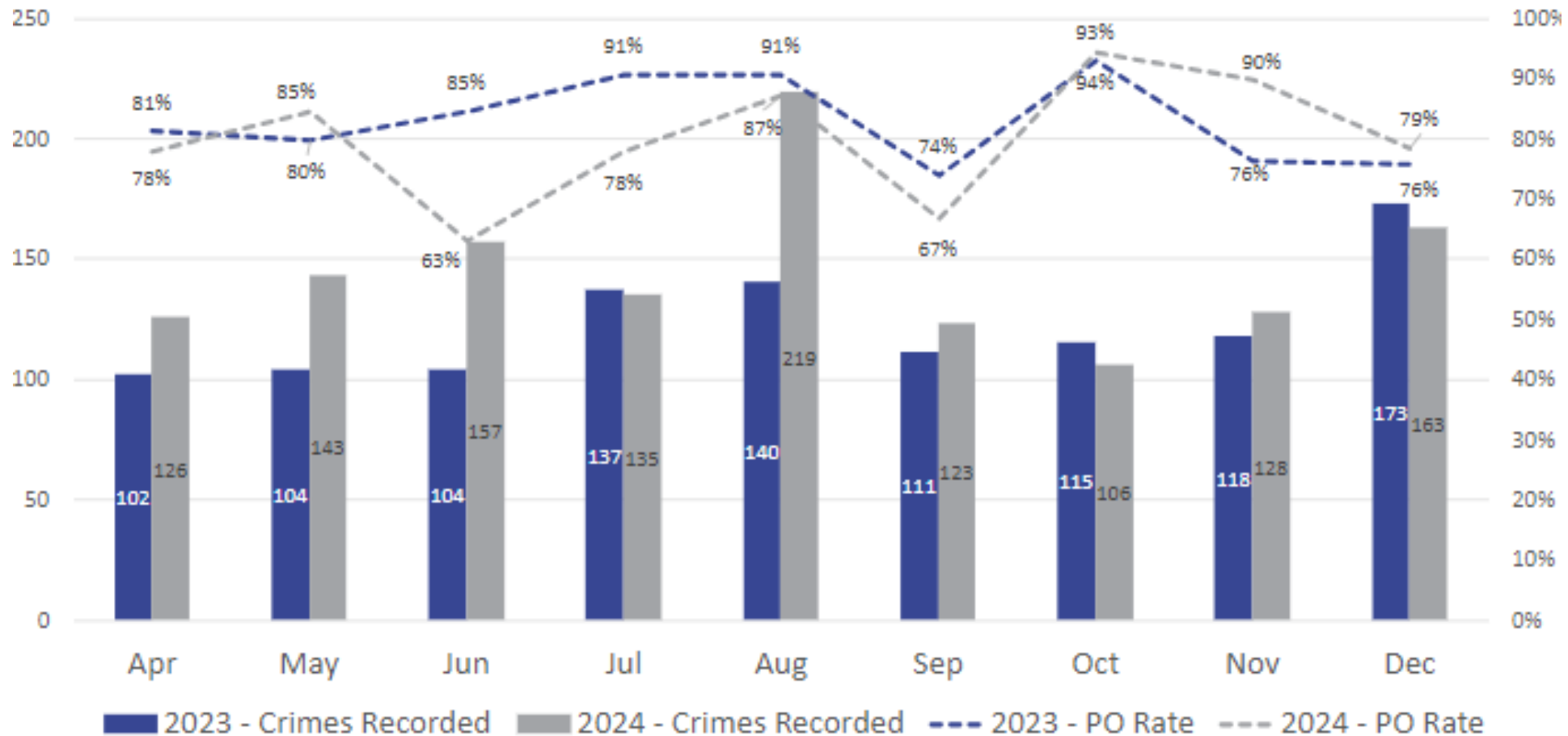
Drugs and Serious Organised Crime



Drugs Possession Offences



Crimes Recorded and Positive Outcome Rate for Possession of Drugs Offences



FYTD

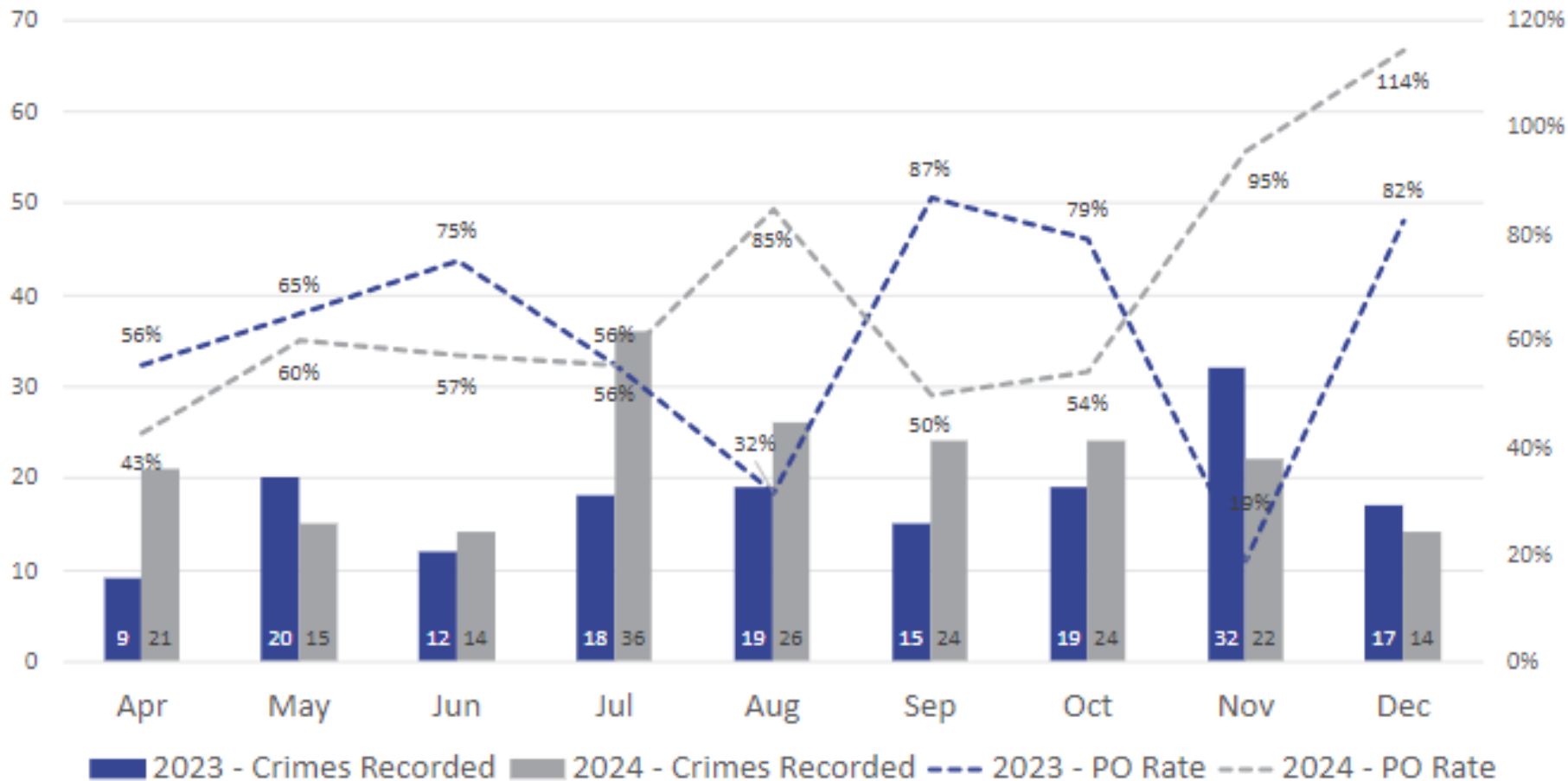
- 1300 drug possession crimes recorded – a 17.8% increase compared to SPLY
- Positive outcome rate – 79.9%, a 3pp decrease compared to SPLY



Drug Trafficking Offences



Crimes Recorded and Positive Outcome Rate for Drug Trafficking Offences

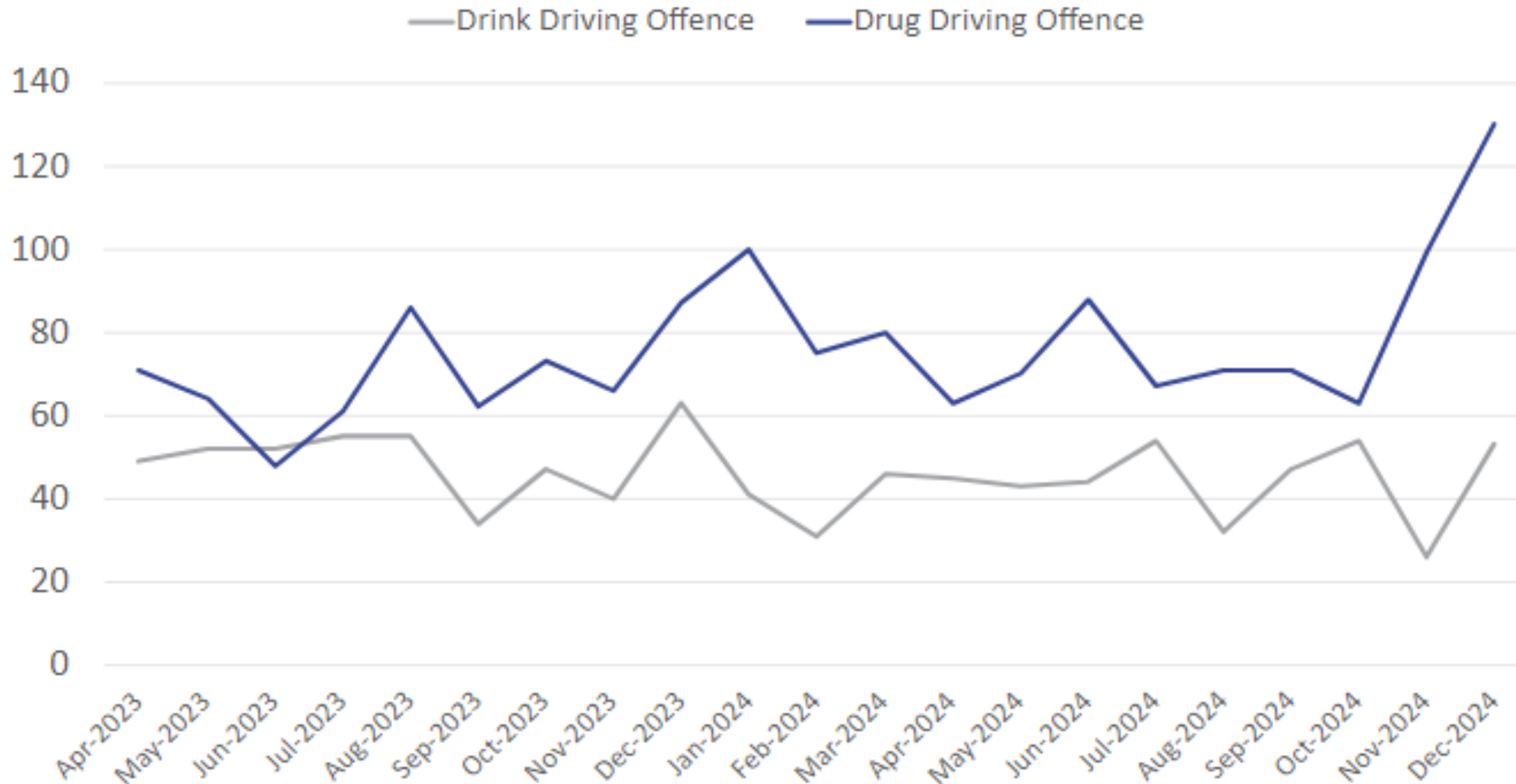


FYTD

- 1300 drug possession crimes recorded – a 19.9% increase compared to SPLY
- Positive outcome rate – 66.8%, a 10.3pp increase compared to SPLY



Number of Arrests for Drink/Drug Driving Offences



- Drug Driving arrests have increased by 16.8% compared to SPLY (722, compared to 618)
- Drink Driving arrests have decreased by 11% compared to SPLY (398, compared to 447)

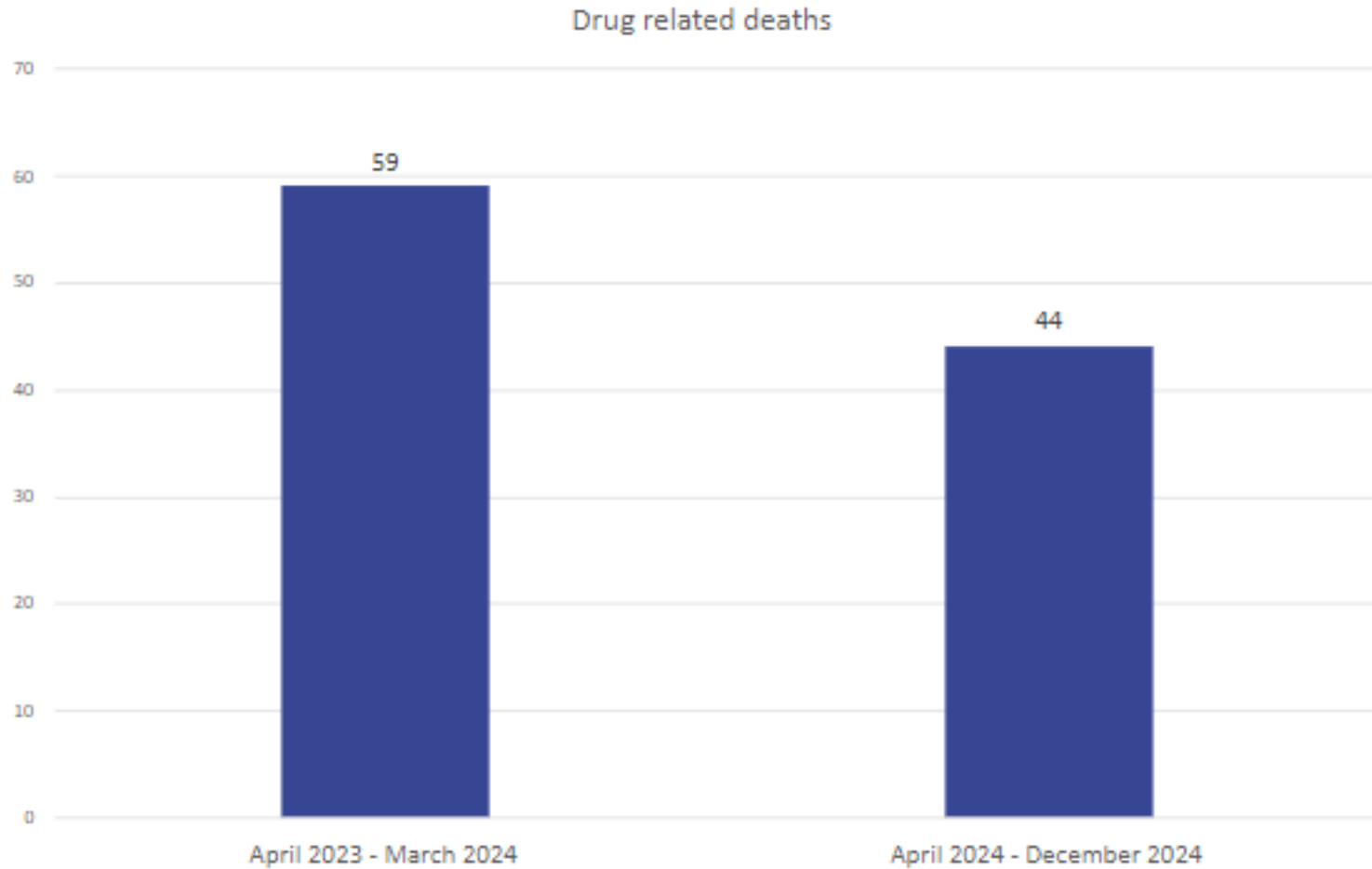
2024	Failed to provide	Negative	Positive	Percent Positive
Apr		5	1	17%
May		5	8	62%
Jun	1	5	3	33%
Jul	2	4	8	57%
Aug		8	7	47%
Sep		6	8	57%
Oct		12	28	70%
Nov	1	8	15	63%
Dec	1	13	18	56%
Grand Total	5	66	96	57%

Testing commenced in April 2024 so no data before this month. Currently only tests for Class A drugs.

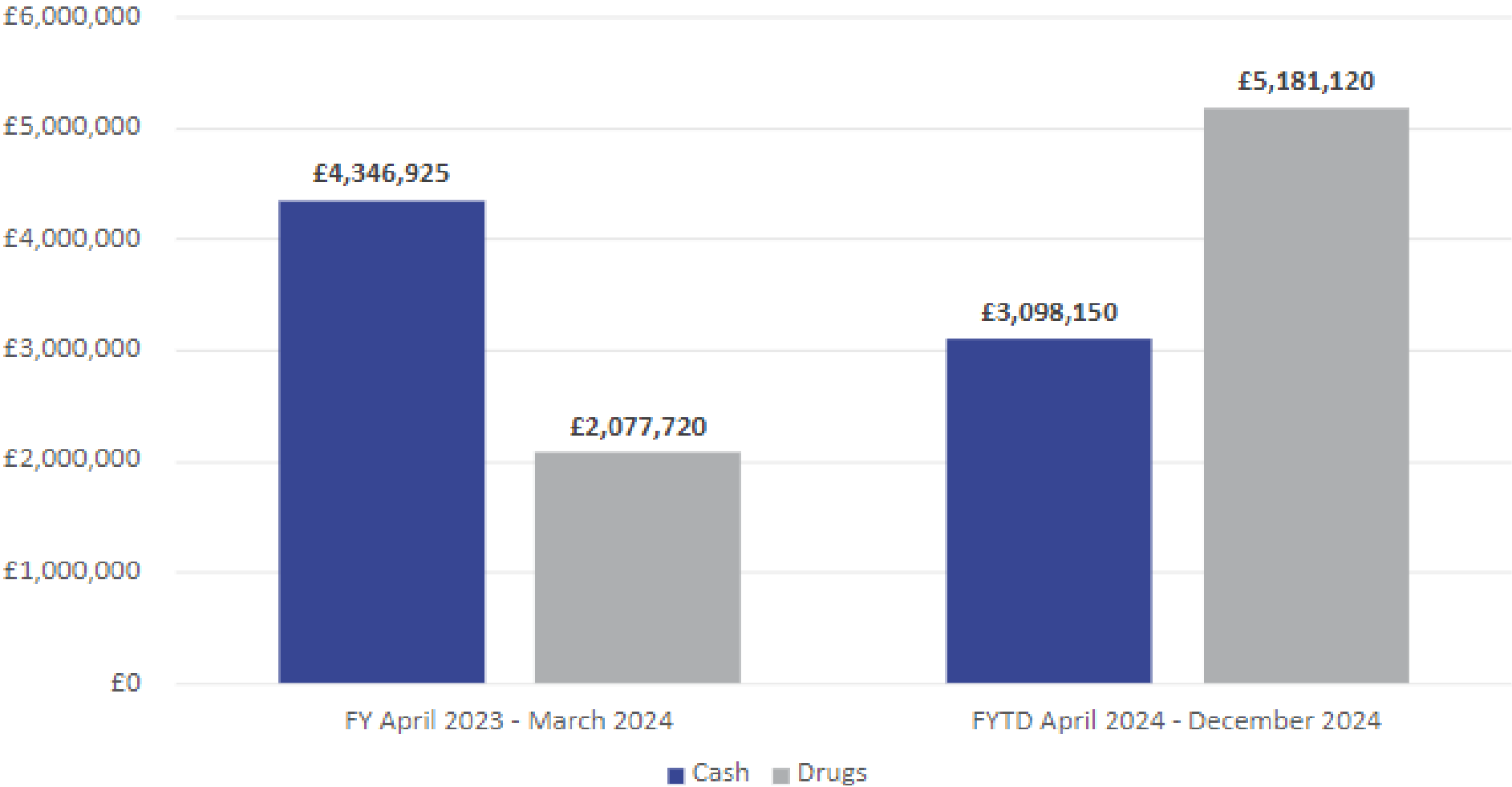
Trigger offences for testing are Burglary and other acquisitive crime (excl. shoplifting). Other triggers are Class A drug offences.

Testing can also be carried out in other circumstances for non-trigger offences if required.

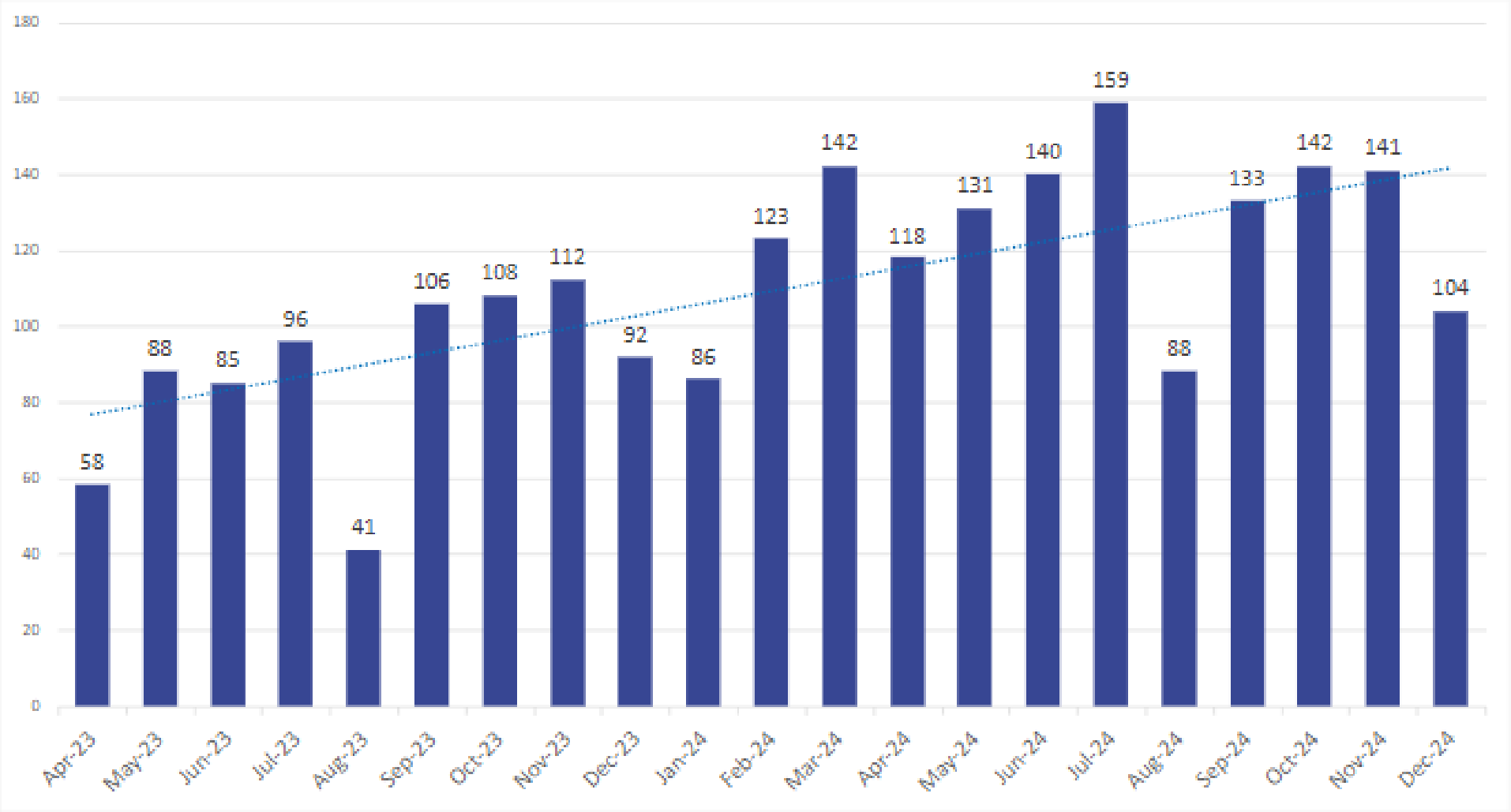
Suspected drugs related deaths



Cash and drugs seized by Roads Crime Unit



County Lines – 1 CLIC visits to vulnerable persons



- Increasing trend can be seen for the number of visits completed with vulnerable persons by our 1 CLIC team and lived experience workers
- Currently the Constabulary has 2 dedicated police officers and 2 dedicated lived experience workers



Clear Hold Build - Hindpool



Clear.

Cross-departmental enforcement activity incorporating specialist regional overt and covert assets

Hold.

Combining high visibility police foot patrol with engagement events including statutory and third sector partners to support local residents and prevent the return of criminal elements

Build.

A multi-agency tactical group working to deliver sustainable solutions to the causes of crime, reducing the tolerance for criminality and making the area a safer place to live, work and thrive.



Barrow Police

27 August 2024 · 🌐

- ✅ 2 warrants conducted resulting in two arrests
- ✅ 25 stop searches carried out resulting in 6 arrests where one so far has been charged
- ✅ 1 vehicle seized
- ✅ Cash, drugs and weapons seized... See more



The Constabulary communications team works to proactively demonstrate how the force tackles drugs misuse.

This is to promote confidence in the public that this issue is a priority for the force, that they can be reassured their information will be acted on – and to deter further offences.

The work falls broadly into two themes – enforcement and prevention of harm.



Enforcement

Press releases, social media and work with the media demonstrates the action taken to stop drugs crime.

This ranges from shining the spotlight on neighbourhood officers carrying out warrants, the work to stop serious and organised crime and work with other agencies.

The force highlights significant court case results to demonstrate the successful conclusion of cases and the fate for those carrying out these crimes.

National initiatives, such as work to prevent county lines drugs crime, are also promoted.

Eight jailed for county lines drugs plot



Cumbria Police • 23 December 2024 at 10:33

On Thursday 19 December, officers carried out three intel led warrants under the misuse of drugs act in Mirehouse, Whitehaven.

The warrants were conducted on Meadow Road, Latrigg Road and Derwentwater Road. They were conducted by officers from intel, Neighbourhood Policing, Tactical Support, Roads Policing, Dog Unit, CID and Community Serious Organised Crime.

A 29-year-old man from Whitehaven on suspicion of being concerned in the supply Class A. He was released under investigation.

A 43-year-old man from Wigan was also arrested on A590 between Newby Bridge and Levens on suspicion of being concerned in the supply Class A and his vehicle uplifted. He was released under investigation.

A spokesperson from the forces intelligence unit said: "These warrants were only made possible by information provided from the community.

"We rely on the community to be our eyes and ears, so we can challenge the use and supply of drugs.

"We have contempt for the act of criminality, which has no place in our communities.

"If you suspect criminality is taking place in your neighbourhood then we want to hear from you so we can take action."

£500,000 seized as part of Cumbria county lines crackdown

BORDER | CUMBRIA POLICE | CUMBRIA | COUNTY LINES

Friday 6 December 2024 at 10:25am



Cumbria Police • 17 December 2024 at 10:20

A man yesterday (Dec 17) jailed at Carlisle Crown Court for county line drug dealing in Carlisle.

Steven Willoughby, 31, of no fixed address was sentenced to four years for concerned in the supply of crack cocaine.

At an earlier hearing on 21 November, Ross Blacklock, 25, of Durranshill Road, Carlisle was sentenced to three years three months for:

- Possession with intent to supply a controlled drug of Class A – Heroin
- Possession with intent to supply a controlled drug of Class A – Crack Cocaine

Concerned in the supply of heroin

Concerned in the supply of crack cocaine

He was also sentenced for separate offences of theft, ABH, criminal damage and three counts of assault on an emergency worker.

Willoughby pleaded guilty to the offences.

Intelligence identified that a mobile number used in Merseyside named the Bentley line was supply Cocaine and Heroin in the Botcherby area of Carlisle.

Steven Willoughby Ross Blacklock

Cumbria Police seize £500k and weapons in county lines drug crackdown

6th December 2024




Prevention of harm



Equally as important is the work to prevent offences happening in the first place – and the work with agencies to prevent repeat offending.

This includes showcasing projects such as the 1CLIC partnership, which provides help to the people most in need, showing them that support is available. In the last year this has included work with media to promote positive case studies of the effect the work is having.

The Constabulary also promotes warn-and-inform messaging around the dangers of drugs and where help can be found.



Cumbria Police
23 December 2024 at 12:16

Cumbria Police are warning the public of the dangers of buying prescription drugs online.

Prescription drugs falling into the bracket of benzodiazepines, which are known as benzos and include diazepam (sometimes referred to as Valium) and other prescription medication such as pregabalin, are suspected to have been a factor in reports such as overdoses and adverse effects in recent months.

Benzodiazepines are a group of sedative drugs that can be prescribed by suitably qualified health professionals, such as a GP, following a consultation undertaken with due care.

Some prescription drugs, such as pregabalin, are prescribed to treat anxiety, nerve pain and other health conditions.

A NEW approach to tackling county lines has put Cumbria in a "great place" as Cumbria Police sees significant improvement on the situation.

County lines is the name used to refer to drug dealing where organised crime groups used phone lines to move and supply drugs, it often exploits vulnerable people by recruiting them to distribute the drugs.

The county - particularly the south - had "a significant problem" with this in 2020 and 2021.

However, a partnership between Cumbria Police and lived experience addiction support charity The Well Communities is helping to tackle the problem by taking a community based approach.

Det Sgt Kev Milby said: "County lines has a significant impact on all communities. It is in every single town and city in this country and obviously there's a lot of negative press that goes with it.

"We didn't have that wrap around approach as to how we could support the people that are most vulnerable to being exploited and the people that are in the midst of addiction.

"And that was the last part of the jigsaw that we put in place because we realised we can't arrest our way out of a problem."

'Disrupting' county lines

Cumbria Constabulary's Det Sgt Kevin Milby, the 1CLIC project manager, said the partnership allowed them to help "the people most in need" and show them that "support" was there.

"By disrupting those involved in county lines, we are preventing illegal drugs getting into our communities, which in turn prevents the associated detrimental impact drug supply has," he said.

For Liam, now 14 months "clean", he is looking forward to a "beautiful" future, free of drugs and drug dealers.



HELP IS OUT THERE

CADAS SUPPORT SERVICE

Does someone in your household misuse drugs or alcohol?

Do you need some advice and support to help you through the festive period?

CADAS have centres across the county and can be contacted on the below details.

Call: 0800 254 56 58
Website: www.cadas.co.uk



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Saved from a life as a county lines drug dealer



Ways to Identify

- Crime reviews
- Stop Searches
- DSL Meetings
- Direct referrals
- Safeguarding reports
- Intel submissions

Addressing once identified

- Child centred policing intervention officers
- Youth Substance Misuse Officers
- Youth Justice



- Care experienced and frequently missing children more likely to be victims of exploitation
- Police - Missing/Exploited/Trafficked Coordinators (METCO)
- Local Authority - Complex Safeguarding Teams
- CE Reviews
- Safety Plans
- Disruption plans



Horizon scanning

- Analytical breakdown of crimes, areas and schools.
- Partner intelligence - MACE
- Police Regional Children and young person meetings - what neighbouring Forces experiencing.

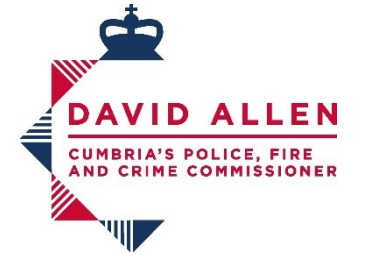
Resulting in

- Tailor made educational and intervention packages.



- Complex Safeguarding Team, Childrens Services, Care Providers, Public Health, CADAS, Youth Substance misuse etc
- Youth Substance Misuse Board
- Youth Justice Board
- CE Champions
- Emergency Department Navigator Pilot





Firearms Licencing



The average wait time for a grant or renewal has decreased significantly over the past three years, in 2024 due to the work of Operation Logic, the average was just over 5 weeks (38 days)

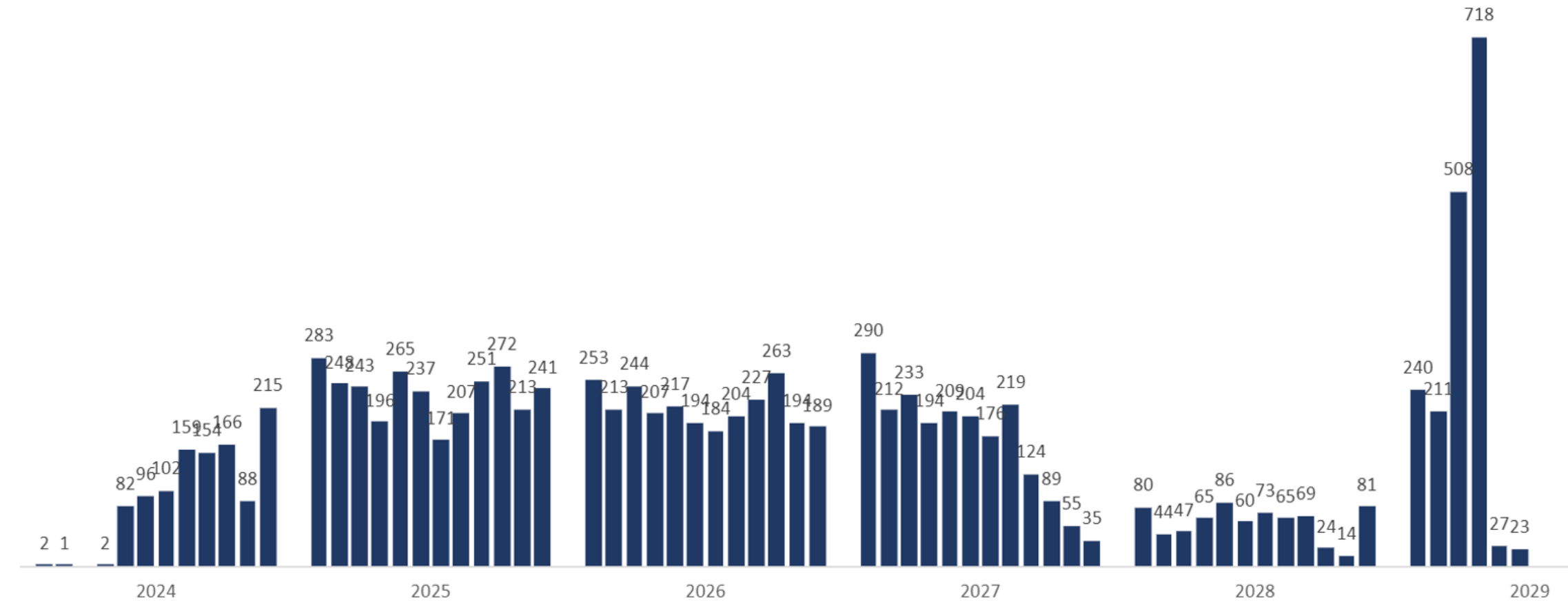
Year	Average duration in days from receiving to close
2022	446
2023	174
2024	38

Open Applications:

- Jan 2023 – 1968
- Jan 2024 – 1229
- Jan 2025 - 255



Firearms Licensing Unit - Current and future demand



Non-Complex Cases (10/01/2025)

Shotgun 191

Firearm 100

As of 13/01/2025 compliance remains strong, a single case is currently outside the SLA due to certificate holder availability. He is scheduled to be visited 15/01/20025, his actual certificate expires in April 2025

Complex Cases (10/01/2025)

2022 – 13 (8 scheduled for ACC on 14/01)

2023 – 23

2024 – 112

2025 – 1

Total currently of 149, reduced from 365 in August 2024.

These cases by their very nature take significant research and task to resolve, case totals continue to move in a positive direction.



**End of
Presentation**

